

# REPORT

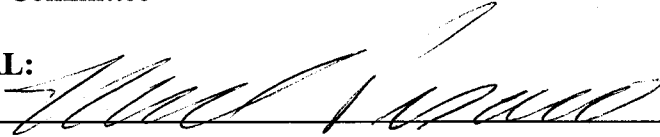
**DATE:** October 3, 2007

**TO:** Executive Committee

**FROM:** Donald A. Rhodes, Manager, Legislative Affairs, (213) 236-1840, [rhodes@scag.ca.gov](mailto:rhodes@scag.ca.gov)

**SUBJECT:** Proposed SCAG Legislative Committee

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:**



**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Authorize the creation of the SCAG Legislative Committee.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Members**

Either (1) the Executive Committee meeting at dedicated times as a legislative committee or (2) a separate legislative committee

**Meetings**

- At least once a month – additional conference calls may be needed. The meetings would be attended by SCAG senior management and legislative staff, and, usually by conference call, by SCAG state and federal lobbyists who will provide updates and advice as needed. The lobbyists, by contract, are required to make two oral reports to the committee and the Regional Council each calendar year.

**Duties**

- Oversee formulation and content of Legislative Program in fall of each year.
- Provide direction (including message content, dates, participants, etc.) on SCAG consensus and advocacy trips to Washington, D.C. and Sacramento.
- With input from senior management, legislative staff and other SCAG staff as needed, and members of the policy committees and the Regional Council, select bills to include in legislative matrix for policy committee and RC.
- With input from senior management, legislative and policy staff and members of SCAG task forces, policy committees and the Regional Council, select bills to present to policy committees including suggested positions. Policy committees and the Regional Council would take final positions on bills and may, as is current practice, select legislation for consideration. Existing practice, as outlined in the SCAG legislative protocol, relating to workshops on legislation for policy committees, would continue.
- Guide the course of action for legislative advocacy for bills on which the SCAG Regional Council has taken a position. The Legislative Protocol now outlines a process. This proposal would require a modification to the adopted protocol and SCAG Policy Manual.

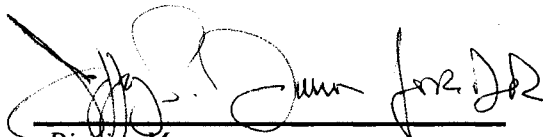
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- Make decisions on bill positions and levels of advocacy when time constraints or other consideration preclude a Regional Council hearing and approval for the SCAG position. Bill positions made in these cases would be reported to the following meeting of the Regional Council for ratification. Under existing legislative protocol these decisions may be made by the Executive Director upon consultation with the President.
- Provide guidance on the annual renewals of the state and federal lobbyists' contracts and serve as the screening panel for the selection of new state and federal lobbyists firms.


## FISCAL IMPACT:

All work related to this information item is contained within the adopted FY 07/08 budget, WBS# 08-810.SCGS1.

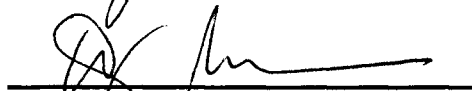
Reviewed by:

  
Division Manager

Reviewed by:

  
Department Director

Reviewed by:

  
Chief Financial Officer